

THE STOCK MARKET DULL AND WEAK—A Summer Day's Business.

GOLD STEADY AT 112 1-2.

Government and Railway Bonds Firm—Investment Shares Steady—Money on Call Loans 2 and 2 1-2 Per Cent.

If the two pigeons which fluttered into the Stock Exchange to-day through its open windows conceived that their appearance would be greeted in the light of a prelude of coming events, as was argued by the sight of birds in the old Roman times, or if they simply desired to pay their respects to such of their own kindred as might be present, they mistook their vocation. Brokers are the reverse of superstitious, and gain no satisfaction from the examination of a bird's viscera, unless it be in the shape of woodcock's trail on toast, and as for the genus Columba, every Stock Exchange pigeon was plucked long ago, and there is no redemptive salt enough in the whole street to capture even the immature of squabs. So our gallant friends, having fluttered in, fluttered out again, probably discoursing in pigeon English on the scene they had looked down upon, but in no wise affecting the market. In fact, nothing did affect the market the whole day through. Business was as stupid as a "fencing farce" in a variety theatre, and transactions as scarce as prizes in a lottery.

A certain amount of strength was exhibited at the commencement, for a considerable amount of orders, which had been aggregated and bottled up over Sunday, were let loose upon the market like a cork out of a bottle, but the succeeding effervescence disappeared so quickly as the fizz from spurious champagne. From this time on to the close fluctuations marked by a half per cent variation were the order of the day, and the amount of dealings were equally unimportant.

Lake Shore opened at 54 1/2, dropped to 54 1/4 and closed at the latter price. Western Union oscillated from 65 1/2 to 66 1/4, and finished up an eighth better, while Michigan Central received as little attention as a wallflower at a fashionable party, and even this was complimentary, for it was in the shape of proposals to sell the stock under the market price at a difference of 1 per cent for sixty or 1/2 per cent for ten days. Such dealings as took place were confined to these few stocks, though Pacific Mail, neglected as it was, showed a noticeable firmness, due, probably, to a demand for proxies and shares for transfer in view of the approaching election. The sellers of the coal stocks seem to be disinclined to push their contracts on the short side of the speculation, since the rejuvenescence of the combination from a possible apprehension of tumbling into some bottomless pit which the companies might dig for them.

The intense dullness seemed to have blighted the imagination of even the rumor mongers, for they had no tales to tell, and beyond whispering the probability of a dividend on Western Union and suggesting bids for it at the figure of 1 1/4 per cent, their occupation was as much gone as was uttered. The appearance of Jay Gould in the street at an early hour this morning was taken as a token of something important to happen, and brokers stood like bunnies in the slips ready to seize and worry the opportunity, but no quarry appeared in sight and no evidence of game anywhere, unless it was in a transient and spasmodic activity in Union Pacific, which dropped off one per cent from the best price. In two words, the market of to-day is but a continuation of the brokers' market of last week and last month and last year. The milking process, so well known in the board, still continues and has been applied to both bulls and bears, and although the most expert of milkmaids might declare the operation impossible, for physical reasons, it is nevertheless quite within the power (financially speaking) of the majority of the street.

THE RAILS TO-DAY.

The transactions at the Stock Exchange to-day aggregated 68,300 shares—New York Central and Harlem, 11,212; Erie, 17,400; Lake Shore, 22,200; Cleveland and Pittsburgh, 214; Lake Shore, 22,200; preferred, 200; Rock Island, 500; Pacific Mail, 2,300; St. Paul, 400; do. preferred, 1,000; Ohio, 2,400; Western Union, 12,400; Union Pacific, 1,700; C. & C. and I. C., 100; Michigan Central, 2,600; Union Mining Company, 2,300.

OPENING, HIGHEST AND LOWEST PRICES.

The following table shows the opening, highest and lowest prices of the day—

	Opening	Highest	Lowest
New York Central	110 1/2	110 3/4	110 1/4
Harlem	128	128 1/2	127 1/2
Erie	15 1/2	15 3/4	15 1/4
Lake Shore	54 1/2	54 3/4	54 1/4
Cleveland and Pittsburgh	214	214 1/2	213 1/2
Rock Island	50 1/2	50 3/4	50 1/4
Pacific Mail	65 1/2	65 3/4	65 1/4
St. Paul	66 1/2	66 3/4	66 1/4
Western Union	112 1/2	112 3/4	112 1/4
Union Pacific	108 1/2	108 3/4	108 1/4
Michigan Central	65 1/2	65 3/4	65 1/4
Ohio	24 1/2	24 3/4	24 1/4
Rock Island	50 1/2	50 3/4	50 1/4
Pacific Mail	65 1/2	65 3/4	65 1/4
St. Paul	66 1/2	66 3/4	66 1/4
Western Union	112 1/2	112 3/4	112 1/4
Union Pacific	108 1/2	108 3/4	108 1/4
Michigan Central	65 1/2	65 3/4	65 1/4
Ohio	24 1/2	24 3/4	24 1/4
Rock Island	50 1/2	50 3/4	50 1/4
Pacific Mail	65 1/2	65 3/4	65 1/4
St. Paul	66 1/2	66 3/4	66 1/4
Western Union	112 1/2	112 3/4	112 1/4
Union Pacific	108 1/2	108 3/4	108 1/4
Michigan Central	65 1/2	65 3/4	65 1/4
Ohio	24 1/2	24 3/4	24 1/4
Rock Island	50 1/2	50 3/4	50 1/4
Pacific Mail	65 1/2	65 3/4	65 1/4
St. Paul	66 1/2	66 3/4	66 1/4
Western Union	112 1/2	112 3/4	112 1/4
Union Pacific	108 1/2	108 3/4	108 1/4
Michigan Central	65 1/2	65 3/4	65 1/4
Ohio	24 1/2	24 3/4	24 1/4
Rock Island	50 1/2	50 3/4	50 1/4
Pacific Mail	65 1/2	65 3/4	65 1/4
St. Paul	66 1/2	66 3/4	66 1/4
Western Union	112 1/2	112 3/4	112 1/4
Union Pacific	108 1/2	108 3/4	108 1/4
Michigan Central	65 1/2	65 3/4	65 1/4
Ohio	24 1/2	24 3/4	24 1/4
Rock Island	50 1/2	50 3/4	50 1/4
Pacific Mail	65 1/2	65 3/4	65 1/4
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